



## OFFICE OF MAYOR ANDY SCHOR

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Thursday, October 10, 2019

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# Vacant and Iconic Temple Building Could Get Major Overhaul

*Redevelopment Would Bring New Retail, Housing and Parking to Old Town and New Revenue to the City*

**(LANSING)** –New people, retail and parking could be coming to Old Town through a proposed redevelopment of the iconic Temple Building. The brownfield plan for the Temple Lofts redevelopment project is anticipated to be received by the Lansing City Council for consideration Monday, Oct. 14, 2019. The Temple Building, built in 1906, derives its name from the original occupants, the Bethlehem Temple Church. The building has been vacant for several years and significantly underutilized for decades.



*Rendering of the proposed Temple Building redevelopment  
courtesy of Michigan Community Capital.*

“The Temple Club building is an iconic part of Lansing, bridging Old Town and Northtown. This is an important spot in terms of both commercial and residential activity, and I am excited that we are working with Michigan Community Capital to re-activate this space with housing and mixed-use options,” said Lansing Mayor Andy Schor. “Lansing’s time is now, and the redevelopment of the Temple Club will ensure an even more vibrant and active business and residential district for residents and visitors of Old Town, Northtown and all of north Lansing.”

Previously, the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (LBRA) approved Brownfield Plan #78 at their Oct. 4, 2019, meeting, a first step forward for the proposed \$9 million renovation of the Temple Building. Mayor Schor and the Brownfield Board will submit the Brownfield Plan to the Lansing City Council and ask that it be referred to the Council Committee on Development and Planning for further consideration.

“The Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (LBRA) is supporting this project due to the incredible impact it could have on both a very important building in the city, and a key entry point into the city. We look forward to seeing another great project move forward in Lansing,” said Calvin Jones, Chair of the LBRA.

The mixed-use redevelopment project proposed by Lansing-based [Michigan Community Capital](#) will include new first floor retail and office space, along with 31 new residential units to complement the Old Town neighborhood’s existing diverse mix of eclectic shops and rich culture. In addition, the project will include 54 new parking spaces created by an attached 2-story parking structure. If the brownfield plan is approved by city council, the project is anticipated to create up to 10 new permanent full-time jobs and 50-60 construction jobs. Construction could begin in spring 2020 and be completed late 2021.

As with all brownfield eligible projects, the developer will fund related brownfield costs up front as part of the overall project cost. The brownfield reimbursement will be paid for from the increase in new property taxes paid by the developer which will result from the developer’s private investment into the property.

The Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) will present the brownfield plan to City Council on behalf of the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (LBRA). Following a required public hearing the brownfield plan is expected to come before City Council for their final consideration in December.

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